

Montana Newsletter

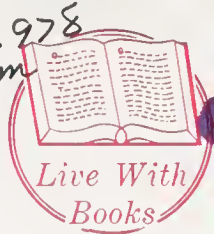
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No. 8

State Library Commission chairman William Conklin was principal speaker on Sunday, September 26, at the dedication of the Liberty County Library building, in Chester. The building, a former hardware store purchased by the County to be remodeled for the library, has some 4,300 square feet of space, shelf capacity for 15,000 volumes, and seats for more than 30. Former quarters, in the Court House, could seat 3 persons and contain 5,000 books. Mrs. Lilly Eveland is librarian.

From funds available under Title II of the Library Services and Construction Act, the State Library Commission granted \$25,000 to Liberty County to assist in this project.

Since Title II funds were first made available in 1965, the State Library Commission has made grants to fourteen city or county libraries to assist in the construction or remodeling of library facilities. The resulting buildings, together with the federal grant moneys involved, are:

Miles City Public Library	\$ 61,116
Sidney Public Library	34,200
Glasgow City-County Library	48,892
Great Falls Public Library	239,219
Roosevelt County Library, Wolf Point	46,707
Sheridan Public Library	7,333
Valier Public Library	30,555
Flathead County Library, Kalispell	54,080
Billings Public Library	280,682
Fallon County Library, Baker	36,000
Eureka Branch, Lincoln County Library	10,000
Rosebud County Library, Forsyth	73,621
Choteau Public Library	20,000
Liberty County Library, Chester	25,000

The State Library Commission has adopted a series of priorities for construction grants. First priority goes to those libraries which serve as headquarters of public library federations; second priority, to libraries which participate in federations; third priority, to county libraries outside federations; and fourth priority, to libraries which serve less than a full county and which do not participate in federations.

Funds available to the Library Commission under Title II for 1971 were \$90,584. Funds for 1972 total \$114,213. From this combined amount the Commission has allocated \$11,400 to the Miles City Public Library toward construction of a bookmobile garage addition to the library. Although certain other applications are pending, the Commission is still able to consider additional requests for funds. Under present legislation, the federal share of a local public library construction project may be as high as 53 percent.

David R. Hoffman
State Librarian

